

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR SHEILA KUEHL

September 29, 2015

Maximizing Enrollment in the My Health L.A. Program

In June 2013 Governor Brown signed AB 85, to expand Medicaid in California and redirect 1991 health realignment funds from the counties back to the State. According to the formula codified under AB 85, DHS must redirect 80% of the health realignment funds that the County would have received in the absence of the Medicaid Expansion back to Sacramento. All of the Net County Cost, sometimes referred to as County General Fund, that DHS receives from the County is factored into this formula, regardless of the purpose for which the Board provided it.

Today the Board is considering year-end budget adjustments that will allow the Department of Health Services (DHS) to close its books for Fiscal Year 2014-15. DHS estimates that \$20.4 M of the My Health L.A. (MHLA) annual program budget of \$61 M was not expended by the end of FY 14-15. Because MHLA is funded by \$55 M of NCC and \$6 M of DHS funding, these unexpended funds have been factored into the AB 85 calculation and are not available to be rolled over into DHS's budget for FY 15-16.

MOTION

SOLIS	_____
RIDLEY-THOMAS	_____
KUEHL	_____
KNABE	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____

While the expansion of Medicaid in California has resulted in a significant drop in the number of uninsured residents and tremendous benefit to our County residents and DHS as a health care provider, it is unfortunate that the funds that the Board allocated for FY 14-15 to serve MHLA clients will not be fully expended.

This underspend is due to a variety of factors, some of which were outside the control of the Department and the community partner clinics. The largest factor contributing to this underspend is the fact that the MHLA program is not yet at maximum enrollment. Although the program is now close to achieving maximum enrollment, we may soon see a drop in enrollment numbers as the community partners and DHS begin to process the first cohort of redeterminations. This Board understands that there will always be some attrition of MHLA members due to clients no longer meeting the program eligibility criteria. Nevertheless, this Board believes that the best way for the County to avoid another year in which we have unexpended funds in the MHLA program is to strive to maximize enrollment in MHLA.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Instruct the Director of the Department of Health Services, in consultation with the Community Clinic Association of Los Angeles County, to report back on options to ensure that the County maximizes enrollment in the My Health L.A. Program (taking into account that enrollment will fluctuate due to such factors as natural program disenrollment/attrition as a result of participant ineligibility) and that all program funds are expended in FY 15-16. This report can be combined with the report that the Board requested on August 11, 2015, on a motion by Supervisors Ridley-Thomas and Solis, to consider options to improve the My Health L.A. program.